

Historic, Archive Document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific
knowledge, policies, or practices

United States Department of Agriculture**BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS**

SERVICE AND REGULATORY ANNOUNCEMENTS NO. 118

**CLASSIFICATION OF LEAF TOBACCO COVERING
CLASSES, TYPES, AND GROUPS OF GRADES**

Issued under authority of

THE TOBACCO STOCKS AND STANDARDS ACT

(Public, No. 661, 70th Cong.)

This classification of leaf tobacco has been developed to enable the Secretary of Agriculture to carry out the provisions of an act of Congress approved January 14, 1929 (Public, No. 661, 70th Cong.). For convenience in administration this act is referred to as the tobacco stocks and standards act. Section 2 of the act states: "The Secretary of Agriculture shall establish standards for the classification of tobacco. He shall specify the types and groups of grades which shall be included in the returns required by this act."

In March, 1929, the Secretary of Agriculture officially promulgated, under authority of the said act, a classification of leaf tobacco. This classification covered only the principal classes and types of American-grown tobacco, and provided a number by which each of the different classes and types could be identified. These type numbers are used for the quarterly reports of tobacco stocks required by the act, and are used as the basis for statistical information on tobacco acreage, production, and prices by types, gathered and published by the United States Department of Agriculture.

All types of domestic-grown tobacco that have an annual production of less than 1,000,000 pounds are treated as "miscellaneous domestic," and tobacco produced in foreign countries is classified as "foreign." To the classes and types promulgated in March, 1929, there are now added class and type designations for "miscellaneous domestic" and "foreign." As in the original classification, no attempt has been made to give all of the various names by which a type may be locally known or all of the sections in which it is produced.

The act also requires the division of each type of tobacco into a limited number of broad divisions known as "groups" or "groups of grades." The principal purpose of this revision of the classification of leaf tobacco, therefore, is to establish definite group divisions for the several types. Within the past eight years tentative standard grades have been prepared for 21 of the 26 important types; and for each of these types, group divisions were tentatively established as the basis of the grades. These groups have been used extensively, as they form the first factor of the standard tobacco grades that are used under the United States warehouse act, by State and commercial agencies, and for the purposes of the Federal-State tobacco-grading service.

Two public hearings were held in Washington on the proposed classification of leaf tobacco at which the several type and group divisions were discussed with leading members of the tobacco trade. Interviews have been held with a large number of tobacco farmers, dealers, manufacturers, and others in order to have the benefit of their criticisms and suggestions. As a result of these hearings and interviews, two of the lower groups of grades, X and Y, as shown in the proposed Classification of Leaf Tobacco issued in February, 1929, have been combined into what will hereafter be known as Group X, the definition of which will be found under each type described herein.

A copy of the tobacco stocks and standards act of January 14, 1929, under which authority this classification is issued, appears on page 17.

DEFINITIONS OF TERMS USED IN CLASSIFICATION OF LEAF TOBACCO

For the purpose of this classification of leaf tobacco, the following terms shall be construed, respectively, to mean:

Leaf tobacco.—Tobacco in the forms in which it appears between the time it is cured and stripped from the stalk, or primed and cured, and the time it enters into the different manufacturing processes. The acts of stemming, sweating or fermenting, and conditioning are not regarded as manufacturing processes. Leaf tobacco does not include any manufactured or semimanufactured tobacco, stems which have been removed from leaves, cuttings, clippings, trimmings, shorts, or dust.

Unstemmed.—A form of leaf tobacco consisting of a collection of leaves from which the stems or midribs have not been removed, including leaf scrap.

Stemmed.—A form of leaf tobacco consisting of a collection of leaves from which the stems or midribs have been removed, including strip scrap.

Class.—One of the major divisions of leaf tobacco based on the distinct characteristics of the tobacco caused by differences in varieties, soil, and climatic conditions, and the methods of cultivation, harvesting, and curing.

Type.—A subdivision of a class of leaf tobacco, having certain common characteristics which permit of its being divided into a number of related grades. Any tobacco that has the same characteristics and corresponding qualities, colors, and lengths, shall be treated as one type, regardless of any factors of historical or geographical nature which can not be determined by an examination of the tobacco.

Group.—A group of grades, or a division of a type covering several closely related grades, based on the general quality of the tobacco, including the percentage of injury, and other factors. The factors that determine the group divisions also largely determine the usage or suitability of tobacco for certain purposes.

Scrap.—A by-product from handling leaf tobacco in both the unstemmed and stemmed forms, consisting of loose and tangled portions of tobacco leaves, floor sweepings, and all other tobacco materials (except stems) which accumulate in auction and storage warehouses, packing and conditioning plants, and stemmeries. Scrap which accumulates from handling unstemmed leaf tobacco is known as leaf scrap and scrap which accumulates from handling stemmed leaf tobacco is known as strip scrap. The scrap group, covering both leaf scrap and strip scrap, is designated by the letter S.

Nondescript.—Any tobacco of a certain type which can not be placed in other groups of the type, or any nested tobacco, or any muddy or extremely dirty tobacco, or any tobacco containing an unusual quantity of foreign matter, or any crude tobacco, or any tobacco which is damaged to the extent of 20 per cent or more, or any tobacco infested with live tobacco beetles or other injurious insects, or any wet tobacco, or any tobacco that contains fat stems or wet butts. The nondescript group is designated by the letter N.

Cure.—To dry the sap from newly harvested tobacco by either natural or artificial process. Proper curing is done under such conditions as will permit of the chemical and physiological changes necessary to develop the desired quality and color in tobacco.

Flue cure.—To cure tobacco under artificial atmospheric conditions by a process of regulating the heat and ventilation without allowing smoke or fumes from the fuel to come in contact with the tobacco.

Fire cure.—To cure tobacco under artificial atmospheric conditions by the use of open fires, the smoke and fumes of which are allowed to come in contact with the tobacco.

Air cure.—To cure tobacco under natural atmospheric conditions without the use of fire, except for the purpose of preventing pole burn (house burn) in damp weather.

Cigar filler.—The tobacco that forms the core or inner part of a cigar. Cigar-filler tobacco is tobacco of the kind and quality commonly used for cigar fillers. Cigar-filler types are those which produce chiefly tobacco suitable for cigar-filler purposes.

Cigar binder.—A portion of a tobacco leaf rolled around the filler of a cigar to hold it together and form the first covering. Cigar-binder tobacco is tobacco of the kind and quality commonly used for cigar binders. Cigar-binder types are those which produce chiefly tobacco suitable for cigar-binder purposes.

Cigar wrapper.—A portion of a tobacco leaf forming the outer covering of a cigar. Cigar-wrapper tobacco is tobacco of the kind and quality commonly used for cigar wrappers. Cigar-wrapper types are those which produce chiefly tobacco suitable for cigar-wrapper purposes.

Damage.—The effect of mold, must, rot, black rot, or other fungous or bacterial diseases which attack tobacco in its cured state. Any tobacco having the odor of mold, must, or rot shall be included in damaged tobacco. (Note distinction between "damage" and "injury.")

Injury.—Hurt or impairment from any cause except the fungous or bacterial diseases which attack tobacco in its cured state. Injured tobacco shall include any dead, burnt, or ragged tobacco; or tobacco that has been torn or broken, frozen or frosted, sunburned or scalded, scorched or fire killed, bulk burnt or steam burnt, pole burnt or house burnt, bleached or bruised; or tobacco containing discolored or deformed leaves; or tobacco hurt by insects; or tobacco affected by wildfire, black fire, rust, frog-eye, mosaic, frenching, sand drown, or other field diseases.

Nested.—Any lot of tobacco which has been so handled or packed as to conceal damaged, injured, tangled, or inferior tobacco, or foreign matter.

Crude.—Very unripe, and having the general appearance of being very immature. Crude tobacco ordinarily has a characteristic green color.

Foreign matter.—Any substance or material extraneous to tobacco leaves, such as dirt, sand, stalks, suckers, straw, and strings.

OFFICIAL PROMULGATION BY THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

By virtue of the authority vested in the Secretary of Agriculture by an act of Congress approved January 14, 1929 (Public, No. 661, 70th Cong.), I, Arthur M. Hyde, Secretary of Agriculture, do hereby establish and promulgate the following classes, types, and groups of grades of leaf tobacco to be known as the Classification of Leaf Tobacco, amending and superseding the Classification of Leaf Tobacco issued March 14, 1929, and to be in force and effect until amended or superseded by a classification hereafter established and promulgated by the Secretary of Agriculture under said act.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and the official seal of the Department of Agriculture in the city of Washington this 14th day of October, 1929.

[SEAL.]

Arthur M. Hyde

Secretary of Agriculture.

CLASSIFICATION OF LEAF TOBACCO

For the purpose of this classification, leaf tobacco shall be divided into the following classes:

CLASSES OF LEAF TOBACCO

- Class 1. Flue-cured types.
- Class 2. Fire-cured types.
- Class 3.¹ Air-cured types.
- Class 4. Cigar-filler types.
- Class 5. Cigar-binder types.
- Class 6. Cigar-wrapper types.
- Class 7. Miscellaneous domestic types.
- Class 8. Foreign-grown cigar-leaf types.
- Class 9. Foreign-grown types, other than cigar leaf.

For the purpose of this classification the classes shown on this page shall be divided into the following types and groups:

¹ Class 3 covers air-cured tobacco other than cigar leaf. This class may be subdivided as follows: Class 3a, light air-cured tobacco, including types 31 and 32, and class 3b, dark air-cured tobacco, including types 35, 36, and 37.

Class 1. Flue-cured types and groups

Type 11.—That type of flue-cured tobacco commonly known as old belt flue-cured, western district bright, middle belt flue-cured, or semiold belt flue-cured; and produced principally in the piedmont sections of Virginia and North Carolina.

Type 12.—That type of flue-cured tobacco commonly known as eastern flue-cured, new belt of North Carolina flue-cured, eastern district bright, or eastern Carolina bright; and produced principally in the coastal plains section of North Carolina, north of the South River.

Type 13.—That type of flue-cured tobacco commonly known as southeastern flue-cured, southeastern bright, South Carolina flue-cured, or new belt of South Carolina and southeastern North Carolina; and produced principally in the coastal plains section of South Carolina and the southeastern counties of North Carolina south of the South River.

Type 14.—That type of flue-cured tobacco commonly known as southern flue-cured, southern bright, southern district bright, new belt of Georgia and Florida, Florida bright, Alabama bright, or Georgia flue-cured; and produced principally in the southern sections of Georgia and to some extent in Florida, Alabama, and Mississippi.

Groups applicable to types 11, 12, 13, and 14:

- A. Wrappers.
- B. Heavy leaf, cutting leaf, and fillers.
- C. Thin leaf or cutters.
- X. Lugs and ground leaves.
- S. Scrap, as defined.
- N. Nondescript, as defined.

Class 2. Fire-cured types and groups

Type 21.—That type of fire-cured tobacco commonly known as eastern fire-cured, Virginia fire-cured, smoked or dark-fired, or dark Virginia; and produced principally in the piedmont and mountain sections of Virginia.

Type 22.—That type of fire-cured tobacco commonly known as southern fire-cured, Clarksville, Hopkinsville, and Springfield fire-cured or dark-fired, or Kentucky-Tennessee broadleaf; and produced principally in a section east of the Tennessee River, in southern Kentucky and northern Tennessee.

Type 23.—That type of fire-cured tobacco commonly known as western fire-cured, Mayfield and Paducah dark-fired or western district dark; and produced principally in a section between the Tennessee, Ohio, and Mississippi Rivers in western Kentucky and northwestern Tennessee.

Type 24.—That type of fire-cured tobacco commonly known as northern fire-cured, Henderson dark-fired or smoked, the stemming district, or Madisonville dark or dark-fired, including the fire-cured of the Owensboro district; and produced principally in the Henderson district of Kentucky.

Groups applicable to types 21, 22, 23, and 24:

- A. Wrappers.
- B. Heavy leaf.
- C. Thin leaf.
- X. Lugs.
- S. Scrap, as defined.
- N. Nondescript, as defined.

Class 3. Air-cured types and groups

Type 31.—That type of air-cured tobacco commonly known as Burley, Burley air-cured, Red Burley, White Burley, or light air-cured of Kentucky; and produced principally in central and northeastern Kentucky, southern Ohio and Indiana, western West Virginia, central and eastern Tennessee, and sections of Virginia, North Carolina, Missouri, and Arkansas.

Groups applicable to type 31:

- A. Wrappers.
- B. Leaf or fillers and tips.
- C. Lugs or cutters.
- X. Trash, flyings and spods.
- S. Scrap, as defined.
- N. Nondescript, as defined.

Type 32.—That type of air-cured tobacco commonly known as southern Maryland tobacco, Maryland air-cured, or Maryland export; and produced principally in southern Maryland. (Upper country Maryland is classed as "miscellaneous domestic.")

Groups applicable to type 32:

- B. Heavy leaf, locally known as dull crop.
- C. Thin leaf, locally known as bright crop.
- X. Seconds and ground leaves.
- S. Scrap, as defined.
- N. Nondescript, as defined.

Type 35.—That type of air-cured tobacco commonly known as One-Sucker, One-Sucker air-cured, Kentucky-Tennessee One-Sucker, Indiana One-Sucker, or dark air-cured One-Sucker, including the upper Cumberland district One-Sucker; and produced principally in northern Tennessee, south central Kentucky, and southern Indiana.

Type 36.—That type of air-cured tobacco commonly known as Green River, Green River air-cured, Henderson district air-cured, or Owensboro district air-cured; and produced principally in the Green River section of Kentucky in both the Owensboro and Henderson districts.

Type 37.—That type of air-cured or sun-cured tobacco commonly known as Virginia sun-cured, Virginia sun and air-cured, or dark Virginia air-cured; and produced principally in the central section of Virginia north of the James River.

Groups applicable to types 35, 36, and 37:

- A. Wrappers.
- B. Heavy leaf.
- C. Thin leaf.
- X. Lugs.
- S. Scrap, as defined.
- N. Nondescript, as defined.

Class 4. Cigar-filler types and groups

Type 41.—That type of cigar-leaf tobacco commonly known as Pennsylvania Seedleaf, Pennsylvania Broadleaf, Pennsylvania filler type, or Lancaster and York County filler type; and produced principally in Lancaster County, Pa., and the adjoining counties.

Groups applicable to type 41:

- B. Binders or tops.
- C. Fillers, locally known as wrappers or B's.
- X. Stemming, farm fillers, ground leaves, and crops unsuitable for sorting.
- S. Scrap, as defined.
- N. Nondescript, as defined.

Type 42.—That type of cigar-leaf tobacco commonly known as Gebhardt, Ohio Seedleaf, or Ohio Broadleaf; and produced principally in the Miami Valley section of Ohio and extending into Indiana.

Type 43.—That type of cigar-leaf tobacco commonly known as Zimmer, Ohio Zimmer, or Zimmer Spanish; and produced principally in the Miami Valley section of Ohio and extending into Indiana.

Type 44.—That type of cigar-leaf tobacco commonly known as Dutch, Shoe-string Dutch, or Little Dutch; and produced principally in the Miami Valley section of Ohio.

Groups applicable to types 42, 43, and 44:

- C. Fillers, locally known as wrappers.
- X. Stemming, farm fillers, ground leaves, and crops unsuitable for sorting.
- S. Scrap, as defined.
- N. Nondescript, as defined.

Type 45.—That type of cigar-leaf tobacco commonly known as Georgia and Florida sun-grown cigar leaf, or the Georgia and Florida filler type; and produced principally in southwestern Georgia and the central part of northern Florida.

Groups applicable to type 45:

- C. Fillers.
- X. Stemming, ground leaves, and crops unsuitable for sorting.
- S. Scrap, as defined.
- N. Nondescript, as defined.

Type 46.—That type of cigar-leaf tobacco commonly known as Porto Rican sun-grown or the Porto Rican filler type, including primed (deshojado) and stalk-cut (manejo); and produced in Porto Rico.

Groups applicable to type 46:

- C. Tripas or fillers.
- X. Resagos, terceros, boliches, and crops unsuitable for sorting.
- S. Scrap (picadura), as defined.
- N. Nondescript, as defined.

Class 5. Cigar-Binder Types and Groups

Type 51.—That type of cigar-leaf tobacco commonly known as Connecticut Broadleaf or Connecticut Valley Broadleaf; and produced principally in the Connecticut Valley section of Connecticut and Massachusetts.

Type 52.—That type of cigar-leaf tobacco commonly known as Connecticut Valley Havana Seed, Connecticut Havana Seed, primed Havana, or stalk-cut Havana; and produced principally in the Connecticut Valley section of Connecticut and Massachusetts.

Type 53.—That type of cigar-leaf tobacco commonly known as York State Tobacco, Havana Seed of New York, or the binder type of New York and Pennsylvania; and produced principally in the Big Flats and Onondago sections of New York State, and extending into Pennsylvania.

Groups applicable to types 51, 52, and 53:

- A. Wrappers.
- B. Binders, locally known as seconds.
- C. Fillers, locally known as tips or B's.
- X. Stemming, sand-leaf fillers, ground leaves, and crops unsuitable for sorting.
- S. Scrap, as defined.
- N. Nondescript, as defined.

Type 54.—That type of cigar-leaf tobacco commonly known as southern Wisconsin cigar leaf and southern Wisconsin binder type; and produced principally south and east of the Wisconsin River, and extending into Illinois.

Type 55.—That type of cigar-leaf tobacco commonly known as northern Wisconsin cigar leaf, or northern Wisconsin binder type; and produced principally north and west of the Wisconsin River, and to some extent in Minnesota.

Groups applicable to types 54 and 55:

- B. Binders.
- C. Fillers, locally known as tips or B's.
- X. Stemming, sand-leaf fillers, bottom leaves, and crops unsuitable for sorting.
- S. Scrap, as defined.
- N. Nondescript, as defined.

Class 6. Cigar-wrapper types and groups

Type 61.—That type of cigar-leaf tobacco commonly known as northern shade, Connecticut Valley shade-grown, or shade of Connecticut; and produced principally in the Connecticut Valley section of Connecticut and Massachusetts.

Type 62.—That type of cigar-leaf tobacco commonly known as southern shade, Georgia and Florida shade-grown, or shade of Georgia and Florida; and produced principally in southwestern Georgia and in the central part of northern Florida.

Groups applicable to types 61 and 62:

- A. Wrappers.
- B. Binders.
- C. Fillers, or tips.
- X. Trashy fillers or loose leaves.
- S. Scrap, as defined.
- N. Nondescript, as defined.

Class 7. Miscellaneous types of domestic tobacco

No type or group divisions have been worked out for class 7. For the purposes of the tobacco-stocks reports all miscellaneous domestic tobacco shall be designated as follows:

Type 70.—All domestic-grown tobacco which has not been otherwise classified. Included in the miscellaneous types are such types as Ohio flue-cured and fire-cured (known as Eastern Ohio). Upper country Maryland, Louisiana perique, California Turkish, and Virginia One-Sucker, and the production of the insular possessions of the United States not otherwise classified.

Class 8. Foreign-grown cigar-leaf types

No type or group divisions have been worked out for class 8. For the purposes of the tobacco-stocks reports all foreign-grown cigar-leaf tobacco shall be designated as follows:

Type 80.—All imported Sumatra, Java, Cuba (Havana) and other foreign-grown cigar-leaf tobacco in the continental United States, including that in customs bonded warehouses and factories and that withdrawn from bond.

Class 9. Foreign-grown types other than cigar leaf

No type or group divisions have been worked out for class 9. For the purposes of the tobacco stocks reports all foreign-grown types other than cigar-leaf tobacco shall be designated as follows:

Type 90.—All leaf tobaccos imported from Turkey, Greece, Bulgaria, Russia, China, or other countries which are used principally for cigarettes, pipe smoking, or chewing purposes.

TOBACCO STOCKS AND STANDARDS ACT

(Public—No. 661—70th Congress)

(H. R. 53)

An Act To provide for the collection and publication of statistics of tobacco by the Department of Agriculture

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the Secretary of Agriculture be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed to collect and publish statistics of the quantity of leaf tobacco in all forms in the United States, in the possession of dealers, manufacturers, growers' cooperative associations, warehousemen, brokers, holders, or owners, other than the original growers of tobacco. The statistics shall show the quantity of tobacco in such detail as to types and groups of grades as the Secretary of Agriculture shall deem to be practical and necessary for the purposes of this Act, and said statistics shall show the stocks of tobacco of the last four crop years, including therein the production of the year of the report, which shall be known as new crops, separately from the stocks of previous years, which shall be known as old crops, and shall be summarized as of January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1 of each year: *Provided,* That the Secretary of Agriculture shall not be required to collect statistics of leaf tobacco from any manufacturer of tobacco who in the preceding calendar year, according to the returns of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue, manufactured less than fifty thousand pounds of tobacco, or from any manufacturer of cigars who during the preceding calendar year manufactured less than two hundred and fifty thousand cigars, or from any manufacturer of cigarettes who, during the preceding calendar year, manufactured less than one million cigarettes, or from any dealer in leaf tobacco who, on the average, had less than fifty thousand pounds in stock at the ends of the four quarters of the preceding calendar year.

SEC. 2. The Secretary of Agriculture shall establish standards for the classification of tobacco. He shall specify the types and groups of grades which shall be included in the returns required by this Act. Such returns shall show the quantity of tobacco by such types and groups of grades for new and old crops separately. The Secretary of Agriculture shall prepare appropriate blanks upon which the returns shall be made, and shall, upon request, furnish copies to persons who are required by this Act to make returns.

SEC. 3. It shall be the duty of every dealer, manufacturer, growers' cooperative association, warehouseman, broker, holder, or owner, other than the original grower, except such persons as are excluded by the proviso to Section 1 of this Act, to furnish within ten days after January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1 of each year, completely and correctly, to the best of his knowledge, a report of the quantity of leaf tobacco on hand, segregated in accordance with the blanks furnished by the Secretary of Agriculture. Any person, firm, association, or corporation required by this Act to furnish a report, and any officer, agent, or employee thereof who shall refuse or willfully neglect to furnish any of the information required by this Act, or shall willfully give answers that are false or misleading, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be fined not less than \$300 or more than \$1,000 or imprisoned not more than one year, or both.

SEC. 4. The word "person" as used in this Act shall be held to embrace also any partnership, corporation, association, or other legal entity.

SEC. 5. The Secretary of Agriculture shall have access to the tobacco records of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue and of the several collectors of internal revenue for the purpose of obtaining lists of the persons subject to this Act and for the purpose of aiding the collection of the information herein required, and the Commissioner of Internal Revenue and the several collectors of internal revenue shall cooperate with the Secretary of Agriculture in effectuating the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 6. The returns herein provided for shall be made under oath before a collector or deputy collector of internal revenue, a postmaster, assistant postmaster, or anyone authorized to administer oaths by State or Federal law.

SEC. 7. That the information furnished under the provisions of this Act shall be used only for the statistical purposes for which it is supplied. No publication shall be made by the Secretary of Agriculture whereby the data furnished by any particular establishment can be identified, nor shall the Secretary of Agriculture permit anyone other than the sworn employees of the Department of Agriculture to examine the individual reports.

SEC. 8. The Act approved April 30, 1912, providing for the collection of tobacco statistics by the Bureau of the Census is hereby repealed.

SEC. 9. If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or the applicability thereof to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the validity of the remainder of the Act and the applicability of such provisions to other persons and circumstances shall not be affected thereby.

Approved, January 14, 1929.

